REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-17 under 35 USC 102. The claims have been amended to further clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-17 remain pending.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102

The claims have been rejected under 35 USC 102as being anticipated by Povilus, US Patent No. 5,740,425 ('Povilus' hereinafter). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of the claim amendments, Applicant respectfully asserts that the claims are allowable over the cited art. Povilus discloses a data structure for publishing electronic and printed catalogs. See title. This data structure is based upon a class structure as represented by the blocks referred to by the Examiner. See col. 13, line 60 – col. 14, line 23.

Claim 1 recites a data structure for use in collecting, distributing or storing product data. In no manner does the data structure of Povilus disclose or suggest a possible value list that identifies values that are selectable as values for the associated attribute <u>corresponding to a product being classified according to the data model</u>. Similarly, Povilus fails to disclose or suggest a plurality of possible unit lists, each possible unit list being arranged to identify units that are selectable as units for an associated one of the attributes <u>for the product being classified according to the data model.</u> Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that the independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited art.

Claim 8 recites, in relevant part, "an attribute table in which selected attributes for each of the products are stored, each of the selected attributes being identified by the ~~corresponding~~ system SKU <u>corresponding to the product classified according to the data model</u> and having at least one of the values <u>from</u> ~~in~~ the associated possible value list." Povilus fails to disclose or suggest storing one or more values from a possible value list in such an attribute table for products classified according to a data model as claimed. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 8 is allowable over the cited art.

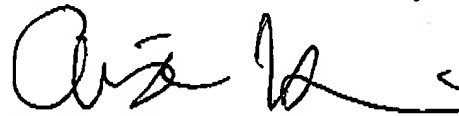Atty Dkt: GDT1P001   6
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The dependent claims depend from one of allowable claims 1 and 8, and are therefore allowable as well. In addition, the dependent claims each recite additional limitations that are not further discussed. For instance, with respect to claim 5, Povilus fails to disclose or suggest that "each of the attributes is associated with a data capture priority indicator that assigns priorities to at least some of the one or more attributes for capture <u>of product data for the attributes in accordance with the assigned priorities</u>" as recited in claim 5." Rather, Povilus merely discloses inheritance of class attributes. Moreover, with respect to claim 6, Povilus fails to disclose or suggest "a <u>possible countries table specifying one or more countries that are selectable as countries for which a product being classified according to the data model is adapted for sale</u>." Rather, Povilus merely discloses a table with "custom columns." While tables are known in the art, Povilus neither discloses nor suggests a possible countries table as claimed. Nowhere does Povilus mention a table of countries or the selection of value(s) from such a table in association with a product being classified according to the data model. In fact, Povilus appears to suggest that values are inserted into the table manually since information must ultimately be filled into these "custom columns," rather than selected from a table within a data structure, as claimed. Moreover, in no manner does Povilus disclose or suggest specifying one or more countries for which a product classified according to the data model is adapted for sale. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claims are allowable.

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Conclusion

The Applicants respectfully maintain that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this Application from the Examiner. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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